REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 29, 2008, has been carefully reviewed and the following comments are made in response thereto. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Claims 25, 26, and 28 have been amended to clarify the wording of the claims by specifying that the human subject is expressing CXCR4. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

The Objections to the Specification should be withdrawn

The Examiner objected to the specification for allegedly failing to comply with the sequence listing rules. Applicants note that when this application was filed, Applicants filed a preliminary amendment specifically identifying the sequences noted by the Examiner. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have herewith submitted a sequence listing and amended the specification to include the appropriate sequence identifiers. Furthermore, the Examiner objected to the title for allegedly being non-descriptive. Without acquiescing to the objection and for the sole purpose of advancing prosecution, Applicants have amended the title as suggested by the Examiner.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph should be withdrawn

Claims 25, 26, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph for alleged lack of enablement. Without acquiescing to the merits of the rejection and for the sole purpose of advancing prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 25, 26 and 28 to recite that the human subject is expressing CXCR4 thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicants note that the Examiner has indicated that such subject matter is enabled by the specification (see Office Action at page 4). In light of the foregoing arguments and amendments, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 25, 26, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance, early notice of which would be appreciated. Should the Examiner disagree, Applicants respectfully request a telephonic or in-person interview with the undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues and to expedite the eventual allowance of the claims.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: June 26, 2008
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Respectfully submitted,
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